(c) and (d) Under the modernization programme of IMD, it is proposed to further upgrade, replacing the manual instruments by Automatic Weather Stations during 11th Five Year Plan.

Establishment of early warning system for Tsunami

†2725. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are establishing early warning system for Tsunami and tempest;

(b) whether an interim tsunami warning centre has been established in Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Service (INCOIS) for tsunami warning;

(c) whether it is a fact that an automatic tide measuring instrument has also been establishment near Indian coast line; and

(d) the steps beign taken by Government to establish communication system between tide measuring instrument through INSAT and INCOIS based early warning system in order to prevent any emergency crisis?

THE MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Government is setting up an Early Warning System for Tsunami and Storm Surges in the Indian Ocean. The system is liely to be operational by September, 2007. A centre would be set up at Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS) Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh on a 24x7 basis. An interim early warning mechanism is presently operational at INCOIS, Hyderabad on 24x7 basis.

(c) and (d) Yes Sir. Under this project 50 automatic Tide Gauges are planned to be installed along the Indian coastline. 20 such Tide Gauges have already been installed. Ministry of Earth Sciences is working with Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) for setting up of the INSAT based communication facility for receiving data in real time from Tide Gauges and Bottom Pressure Recorders.

Participation in fairs and exhibitions

2726. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of fairs and exhibitions held and those in which

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

the Ministry had participated since forming of the separate Ministry.

(b) the details of the expenditure incurred thereon, exhibition-wise;

(c) whether Government are aware that there have been wide spread corruption and financial irregularities in the money spent on these fairs;

(d) whether Government are also aware that officials responsible with the fairs and exhibitions have amassed disproportionate assets due to this; and

(e) if so, the action proposed/taken against such corrupt officers who have misused the public money to their personal interest?

THE MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) After the Ministry's formation on 12/7/2006, there has been participation in 4 exhibitions:

(b)

Sl.No.	Details	Venue	Duration	Expenditure
1. "10th National Expo"	Kolkata	1st - 8th Sept. 2006		Rs. 1,17,500/-
2. "INDIA TECH" organized by CSIR	Beijing, China	8th-11th Sept. 2006		Rs. 14,12,500/-
3. "Exhibition cum Fairs on Rural Technologies"	Deoghar Jharkhand	27th-31st Oct. 2006		Rs. 9,22,000/-
4. "IITF'2006"	New Delhi	14th-27th Nov. 2006		Rs. 24,38,009/-

(c) No financial irregularities or corruption have come to notice.

(d) & (e) Do not arise.

Expansion in FPIs

†2727. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a wide expansion has taken place in food processing industries in the country during the last three years; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.